

REVISION OF COTTON GINNING CENSUS REPORT DATES

SEPTEMBER 28, 1971.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. CHARLES H. WILSON, from the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 932]

The Committee on Post Office and Civil Service, to whom was referred the bill (S. 932) to amend title 13, United States Code, to provide for a revision in the cotton report dates, having considered the same, report favorably thereon with an amendment and recommend that the bill as amended do pass.

AMENDMENT

The amendment is as follows:

On page 1, line 5, strike out "report" and insert in lieu thereof "reports".

EXPLANATION OF AMENDMENT

This amendment, which substitutes the word "reports" for the word "report", is a technical amendment necessary to make the section heading of section 43 of title 13, United States Code, as amended by S. 932, conform to the reference to such section 43 contained in the table of sections of subchapter I of chapter 3 of such title 13.

PURPOSE

The proposed legislation would permit the completion of the cotton ginning reports at the end of the cotton ginning season but not later than the March canvass.

STATEMENT

This legislation is an administration bill which the committee ordered reported unanimously. It would correct an inefficiency that

now exists in the collection of data relating to the ginning of cotton. Section 43 of title 13, United States Code, stipulates that the cotton ginner submit their reports at the March canvass (about mid-March) each year.

There are approximately 4,000 active gins in the country, and the cotton ginning season varies throughout the States engaged in this industry. Most gins complete their operations at varying periods beginning October 1 through mid January, well in advance of the March canvass date. Upon the completion of the ginning season, many gins are closed down, and it becomes virtually impossible to get in touch with them for delinquent or other reports, and this, of course, increases the cost to the Bureau of the Census for collecting the data. Furthermore, the burden of the respondent would be less if he were requested to supply additional information while still operating his gin activity.

There is presented below a percentage tabulation of the cotton gins which normally complete their operation by January 16 (two months in advance of the March canvass date). Many of the gins already submit their reports upon the completion of their ginning season, so passage of this bill would make the law conform to their current practice.

COTTON GIN COMPLETIONS

	Percentage	Cumulative No
Date:		
Oct. 1.....	3	120
Nov. 1.....	9	360
Dec. 1.....	22	880
Dec. 13.....	34	1360
Jan. 16.....	66	2640

The Secretary of Commerce supports the position of the Committee, that it would be more efficient if ginner were to make their final reports as soon as they have finished ginning, in the following communication:

THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE,
Washington, D.C., February 11, 1971.

HON. CARL ALBERT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives,
Washington, D.C.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: Enclosed are four copies of a draft bill "To amend Title 13, United States Code, to provide for a revision in the cotton ginning report dates," together with a statement of purpose and need in support thereof.

We have been advised by the Office of Management and Budget that there would be no objection to the submission of our draft bill to the Congress from the standpoint of the administration's program.

Sincerely,

MAURICE H. STANS,
Secretary of Commerce.

Enclosures

Cost

Enactment of this legislation will result in no additional cost to the Government.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW MADE BY THE BILL, AS REPORTED

In compliance with clause 3 of Rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, changes in existing law made by the bill, as reported, are shown as follows (existing law proposed to be omitted is enclosed in black brackets, new matter is printed in italic, existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman):

SECTION 43 OF TITLE 13, UNITED STATES CODE

CHAPTER 3.—COLLECTION AND PUBLICATION OF STATISTICS

* * * * *

SUBCHAPTER I—COTTON

* * * * *

§ 43. Records and reports of cotton ginner.

Every cotton ginner shall keep a record of the county or parish in which each bale of cotton ginned by him is grown and report at the [March canvass of] *completion of the ginning season, but not later than the March canvass, of each year a segregation of the total number of bales ginned by counties or parishes in which grown.*

○

